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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/619,365

07/14/2003

Michael Richter

22575

6823

535

7590

05/18/2005

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EXAMINER

CHUNG TRANS, XUONG MY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 05/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

H.P.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/619,365	Applicant(s) RICHTER ET AL.	
	Examiner Xuong M. Chung-Trans	Art Unit 2833	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 2/24/05.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 6-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 6-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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1. This is responsive to the amendment filed on 2/24/05.
2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-2 and 6-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Masumoto (USPN 6,398,598) in view of Kwiat et al. (USPN 5,746,626).

Masumoto discloses in figs. 1-3 a contact assembly comprising: a dielectric mounting block (31) having inner and outer faces, and a conductive contact (41) unitarily formed of elastically deformable metal with a center web (42) set in the block and formed with a throughgoing cutout (42a), an inner leg (44), an outer leg (43) having a tip (34) and elastically deflectable from an outer position spaced well outward of the outer face and spaced from the web to an inner position with the tip (34) extending through the cutout (42a) and past the web (42). Masumoto does not explicitly disclose that the inner leg elastically deflectable toward the center web. Kwiat, however, teaches such an inner leg (32). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled artisan at the time the invention was made to include the teaching of Kwiat in the Masumoto connector assembly so that the leg can be configured to bent in a second direction or in any other direction as needed.

As per claim 2, Kwiat discloses the contact is formed with inner and outer U-

shaped bights connecting the respective legs to the web.

As per claim 6, Masumoto discloses the cutout 42a is formed as a notch wholly bounded by the web.

As per claim 7, Masumoto discloses the web 42 is substantially wider at the notch than the tip.

As per claims 8-9, Kwiat discloses the bights are at opposite ends of the web and the legs extend oppositely toward each other from the respective bights.

4. Claims 3-4 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Masumoto and Kwiat et al. as applied to claims 1-2 above, and further in view of Bricaud (USPN 6,454,607).

As per claims 3-4 Masumoto does not explicitly disclose that the block is formed on the outer face with an abutment (74) and the tip (24) bearing outward on the abutment (74). Bricaud, however, discloses in fig. 6 the outer face is formed with an abutment (66,70) and the tip (32) bearing outward on the abutment (66,70). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled artisan at the time the invention was made to include the teaching of Bricaud in the Masumoto connector assembly in order to limit upward movement of the tip of the contact.

As per claim 10, claim 10 recites subject matter similar to claims 3-4; therefore, it is rejected under the similar rationale.

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4 and 6-10 have been considered

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but are moot in view of the new ground of rejection.

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Xuong M. Chung-Trans whose telephone number is (571) 272-2002. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula Bradley can be reached on (571) 272-2800 extension 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from

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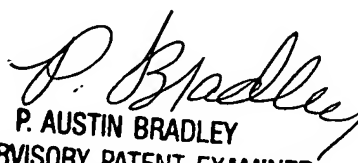
the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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X. Chung-Trans



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